

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 16-23 remain pending.

The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider earlier rejections in light of the following remarks. No new issues are raised nor is further search required as a result of the changes made herein. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 and 16-23 over Croft

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, 14, 16-21 and 23 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,490,439 to Croft et al. ("Croft"); and claims 3, 6, 13 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Croft. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-14 and 16-23 recite a system and method respectively activating an indicator and providing a first indication based on an acceptable level determined by comparing a determined link quality and a minimum link quality threshold.

Croft discloses a lighted antenna that can be used to show that the transceiver is transmitting or receiving signals, that a data connection has been made, or that a Bluetooth piconet has been detected. (See Croft, Abstract) The Examiner specifically cites col. 8, line 57 to col. 9, line 2; and col. 9, line 61 to col. 10, line 3. In these teachings, Croft discloses that the "antenna can be used to provide a visual indication that conveys information to a user about . . . the strength of the incoming signals, or whether receiver 908 is transmitting or receiving."

Although Croft conveys to a user a visual indication about the strength of an incoming signal, Croft fails to disclose any type of limitations as a basis for the visual indication. Without limitations, a user is shown the entire spectrum of signal strength from the lowest to the highest, i.e., **NOT** based on any type of threshold. Croft fails to disclose or suggest a system and method respectively activating an indicator and providing a first indication based on an

acceptable level determined by comparing a determined link quality and a minimum link quality threshold, as recited by claims 1-14 and 16-23.

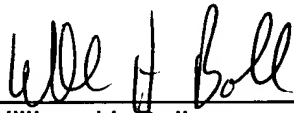
A benefit of activating an indicator and providing a first indication based on a minimum link quality threshold is, e.g., a more informative indication. In Croft's system a user is still left to wonder if the indicated signal strength is adequate for its intended purpose. In simple applications, even a low signal strength and low bandwidth may be adequate. However, in more demanding applications, a strong signal strength and high bandwidth are required. Croft's simplistic approach of simply giving a user a visual indication about the strength of an incoming signal does not give the user an indication if the signal strength meets the requirements of a particular application. By selecting an appropriately valued minimum link quality threshold Applicants' basis of indication on a minimum link quality threshold allows a more informative indication if a signal strength meets a particular application. Croft fails to disclose or suggest use of a minimum link quality threshold with such benefits.

For at least all the above reasons, claims 1-14 and 16-23 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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